



National Association of  
Chemical Distributors

April 24, 2023

The Honorable Stacy Brenner  
Chair, Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
Cross Office Building, Room 216  
100 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

**RE: Support - LD 1214/SP 495** *An Act to Clarify the Laws to Combat Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination*

Dear Chair Brenner and Members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

The National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD) respectfully requests your support of LD 1214/SP 495, An Act to Clarify the Laws to Combat Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination, that would provide clarification to Public Law 2021 chapter 477, which requires reporting of products with intentionally added Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and bans all products with intentionally added PFAS as of January 1 2030, unless the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) determines that the use of PFAS in the product is an unavoidable use.

NACD recognizes Maine's interest in managing PFAS contamination to protect the health of the state's citizens and the environment. LD 1214/SP 495 furthers this goal by making necessary changes to definitions in the current law that would address concerns with certain PFAS chemistries while still allowing critically important uses and benefits of similar chemistries.

LD 1214/SP 495 would also enable greater compliance with the law by providing companies with a one-year extension of the deadline for reporting products that contain intentionally added PFAS. Although the reporting requirement was scheduled to go into effect January 1, 2023, the DEP has granted thousands of manufacturers an extension in recognition of the complications related to reporting. These complications include delays in rulemaking, difficulty in obtaining and protecting confidential business information protected by intellectual property laws, disruptions in the global supply chain, and lack of laboratory testing capacity. A one-year extension of the reporting requirement date would allow manufacturers and the DEP to work through these issues.

Lastly, the proposed bill removes the January 1, 2030, ban on any products with intentionally added PFAS except those that the DEP identifies as having an unavoidable use. This provision is unnecessary and duplicative given that the law already gives the DEP the authority to identify products or categories of products that cannot be sold or distributed.

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Nearly every sector of the economy, including aerospace, autos, alternative energy, healthcare, building and construction, electronics, pharmaceuticals, and agriculture, relies on PFAS chemistries for the reliable and safe function of a variety of products. Due to the critical nature of these materials, it is necessary for bills restricting the use of PFAS chemicals to use gradual methods and not be overly burdensome.

NACD encourages the support of LD 1214/SP 495 as a sensible solution to protect health and the environment while providing regulatory clarification and certainty to impacted companies.

Sincerely,



Jennifer C. Gibson  
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs  
National Association of Chemical Distributors

